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September 12, 1985

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President Ronald Reagan
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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MR. GORBACHEV

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Dear Mr. President:

Like many Americans I am looking forward to your meeting this fall with Mr. Gorbachev as a step towards peace and greater understanding between our countries.

While it is important to look towards the future and concentrate on those areas which will insure peace for years to come, we can not forget our past because it is from history that we learn to deal with our future.

World War II should serve as a lesson to us all on the importance of securing human rights throughout every nation. While I am confident that there will be a human rights agenda at the conference, I urge you to add to that agenda the situation of Raoul Wallenberg.

This past year as we celebrated the 40th Anniversary of our victory in World War II, Raoul Wallenberg celebrated his 40th Anniversary of incarceration. As a hero of World War II and as an honorary citizen of the United States we owe it to him to make every effort to secure his release and safety.

Mr. President, you often speak of heroes to encourage and inspire Americans of what one individual can accomplish. Mr. Wallenberg, now a 73 year old man is the hero of our time. His freedom would serve to inspire the world that freedom and justice shall always prevail.

I thank you for your attention to this matter and I wish you a most successful summit conference.

Sincerely,

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Barbara Patton

Barbara Patton
Member of Assembly